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DDI-693-74

THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20505

Office of the Director

DCI/IC 74-0585

7 MAR 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR THE USIB

SUBJECT: Joint Situation Reports

1. We wish to call your attention to the attached letter from the Deputy Assistant to the President for NSC Planning since it concerns a matter of great interest to all of us.

2. I concur with the views expressed by Mr. Kennedy concerning the need for a joint situation report during a major crisis and the desirability of finding ways to express differing views and degrees of probability in any such joint report. The DCI, the IC Staff, and the NSCIC Working Group have all previously made proposals of precisely this character.

3. The IC Staff is now investigating ways to improve communications within the Intelligence Community, between the various operations centers (a conferencing net is being tested), and between analysts (the feasibility of setting up an analytical network with a text-editing capability is being studied). Assuming that such networks could function effectively, they would of course greatly facilitate the establishment of a joint situation report during periods of crisis. Once it was agreed that the Community should indeed issue a publication of this sort, the devices and procedures appropriate to its mission--including the expression of dissent, uncertainties, and degrees of probability--could probably be worked out with a minimum of fuss and bother. And the current effort to agree on a charter for a new National Intelligence Bulletin (NIB) will no doubt help to establish precedents for a joint situation report as well.

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4. We hope, following further work on the communications networks, to present to the USIB a series of specific proposals concerning the Community's production of finished intelligence--including, of course, situation reports--during crises.

(Signed)
DANIEL O. GRAHAM, LTG, USA

Daniel O. Graham
Lieutenant General, USA
Deputy to the DCI for the
Intelligence Community

Attachment:
Letter of 27 Feb 74

cc: USIB Secretariat

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